

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Ullas Gargi et al

) Group Art Unit: 2672

Application No.: 09/904,627

Examiner: Jin Cheng Wang

Filed: July 16, 2001

Confirmation No.: 2970

HIERARCHICAL IMAGE

FEATURE-BASED VISUALIZATION

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SEP 0 9 2004

Technology Center 2600

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 4, 2004, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-7, 11-12 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,240,423 (Hirata et al). This rejection is traversed, because the Hirata patent is directed to a query based image matching system, wherein images are displayed only a single time per query. Using this method, the results of a database query are displayed based upon results of a combined region based image matching and a boundary based image matching. In contrast, exemplary embodiments of the present invention are not directed to query